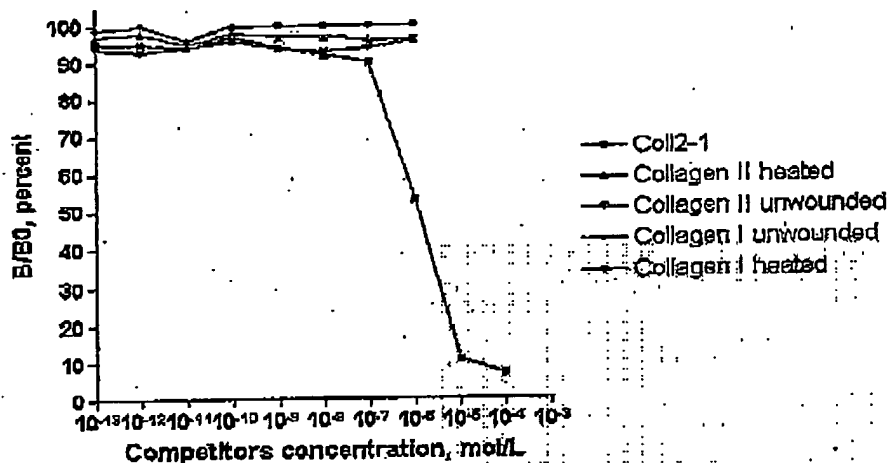


Attorney Docket No. P70086US0
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Remarks/Arguments:

As explained in the remarks at page 9 of the aforesaid amendment (filed December 22, 2007), applicant demonstrated that antibody D3 does not recognize native (wound) collagen type II or heat-unwound collagen type II.

The specific data by which this is demonstrated is graphically presented in Fig. 7 of the subject application, reproduced below (with the legend to the right of the figure being added for clarity).



This data—as further explained in the remarks of the aforesaid amendment—indicates that the epitope recognized by antibody D3 is a fragment of the alpha chain, which is in a linear form, as confirmed by Deberg M., et al., "New serum biochemical markers (Coll2-1 and Coll2-1NO2) for

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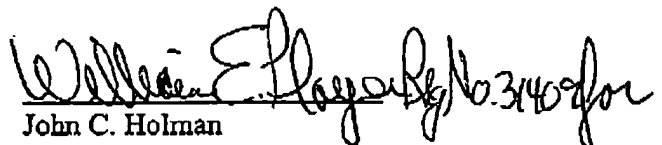
studying oxidative-related type II collagen network degradation in patients with osteoarthritis or rheumatoid arthritis," *Osteoarthritis Cartilage*, 13, 2005, 258-65.

Favorable action is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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